

'I scrambled out of the aircraft and threw my gear into the flames which had at once broken out. I then found Sgt. ROYLE and pulled him out. I could not find the other members of the crew. As ROYLE had cuts on his knees and head we rested in nearby woods.

Later we moved South by our compass and hid when day broke. At about 0600 hrs on 11 Sep, I approached a farm and declared myself to the farmer. He asked for my 'papiers'. The only means of identifying myself I had was an English cigarette packet. This satisfied him. He took me into his house where I was embraced by all present. His son went to fetch some members of the Maquis.

Some F.F.I. men came in a car and took us to the aircraft where we found the bodies of the four others. We then went to ROYLE who was given first aid and taken to the hospital at EPINAC-LES-MINES.

An English-speaking Frenchman then bought along two ladies who offered to look after us. I accepted, but first went to EPINAC to see that ROLFE was properly settled in hospital. I then helped to take the four bodies to EPINAC town hall where they lay in state. They were buried on 13 Sep. in EPINAC cemetery with civic honours. 7000 people attended their funeral.

I lived quietly in MOLINOT (N 72) with my two helpers for a couple of months. There were no Germans about as they had left the district on 9 Sep. I was given no papers.

On 24 Sep Sgt. ROYLE left hospital and joined me at MOLINOT. We then got in touch with the F.F.I. at EPINAC who, on 26 Sep, took us to DIJON where we contacted American troops.

We left CHERBOURG on 27 Sep by air for the U.K.